

2-1-1971

# The Jessup Era -- 1916-1934

Bruce E. Mahan

Follow this and additional works at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest>

Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Mahan, Bruce E. "The Jessup Era -- 1916-1934." *The Palimpsest* 52 (1971), 79-100.

Available at: <https://ir.uiowa.edu/palimpsest/vol52/iss2/6>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the State Historical Society of Iowa at Iowa Research Online. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Palimpsest by an authorized administrator of Iowa Research Online. For more information, please contact [lib-ir@uiowa.edu](mailto:lib-ir@uiowa.edu).



## The Jessup Era—1916-1934

Walter Albert Jessup, fourteenth president of the University of Iowa, took over the duties of the office on September 1, 1916. Born in Indiana of Quaker ancestry in 1877, Jessup had been brought to Iowa in 1912 as Director of the School of Education by President Bowman. When Education became a College in 1913, Jessup was named dean.

Walter Jessup had a rich educational background. He graduated from Earlham College in 1903, received an M.A. from Hanover College in 1908, and a Ph.D. from Teachers College, Columbia University in 1911. In the spring of 1911 he became head of the College of Education at Indiana University.

From his arrival in Iowa until he became president in 1916, Jessup pursued a vigorous career. He was in demand as a lecturer on education. He helped, in an advisory capacity, in administrative school problems for Cleveland, Ohio; Los Angeles, California; Evanston, Illinois; and Hibbing, Minnesota. The United States Commissioner of Education, P. P. Claxton, asked him to investigate the organization and administration of San Francisco and St. Louis schools.



The new president took up his duties in September, 1916, although his formal inauguration was not held until the following May. His extensive travels throughout Iowa, during four years as director and dean, gave him an understanding of Iowa's educational needs.

The new president soon came face to face with World War I. The years 1917 and 1918 brought many problems of adjustment. The Students Army Training Corps (S.A.T.C.), replacing the R.O.T.C., took over the campus in the fall of 1918, and confusion resulted.

When war was declared April 6, 1917, President Jessup offered the facilities of the University to the Government. In May, leaves of absence were granted to 13 men to enter training at Fort Snelling. Later some 400 men, students and faculty left for service. Graduation exercises were held at Fort Snelling for Iowa graduates training there.

The University economized during the winter of 1917-1918; heat was reduced and coal saved. An Iowa Patriotic League was established to arouse patriotism in schools with the program in charge of the Extension Division. President Jessup assisted in the Liberty Loan campaigns and Virgil M. Hancher, Senior Class President, headed the University drive. Students purchased \$104,000 in bonds, the faculty, \$54,000. The University gave instruction in blacksmithing, concrete work, radio operation, auto mechanics, truck and auto

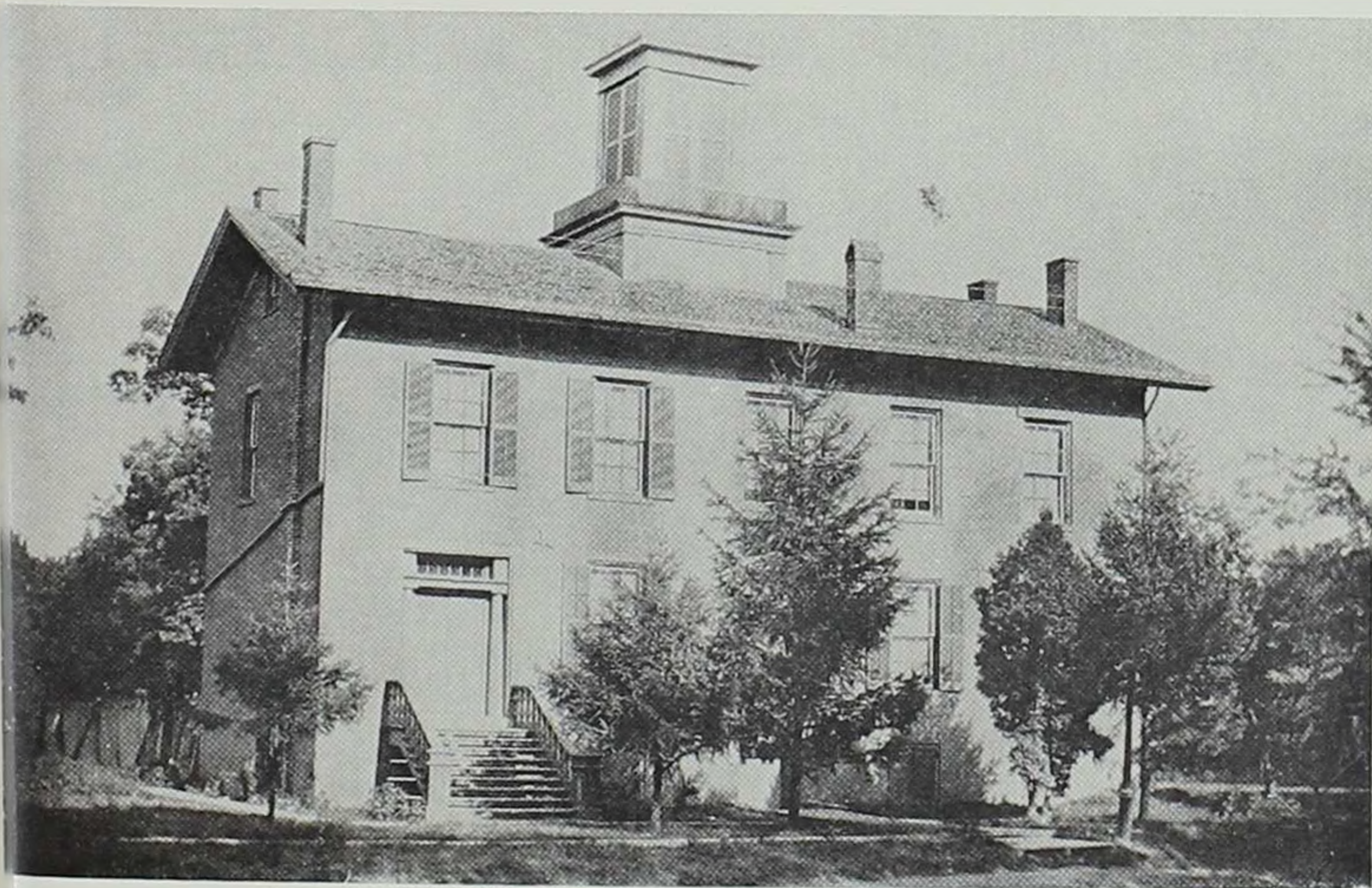




University faculty in the 1860's: (Left to right) Gustavus D. Hinrichs, Chemistry; Theodore J. Parvin, Natural History, Librarian; D. Franklin Wells, Normal Department; Oliver M. Spencer, President; Nathan R. Leonard, Mathematics; Charles A. Eggert, Modern Languages; Joseph T. Roberts, Philosophy and Literature.

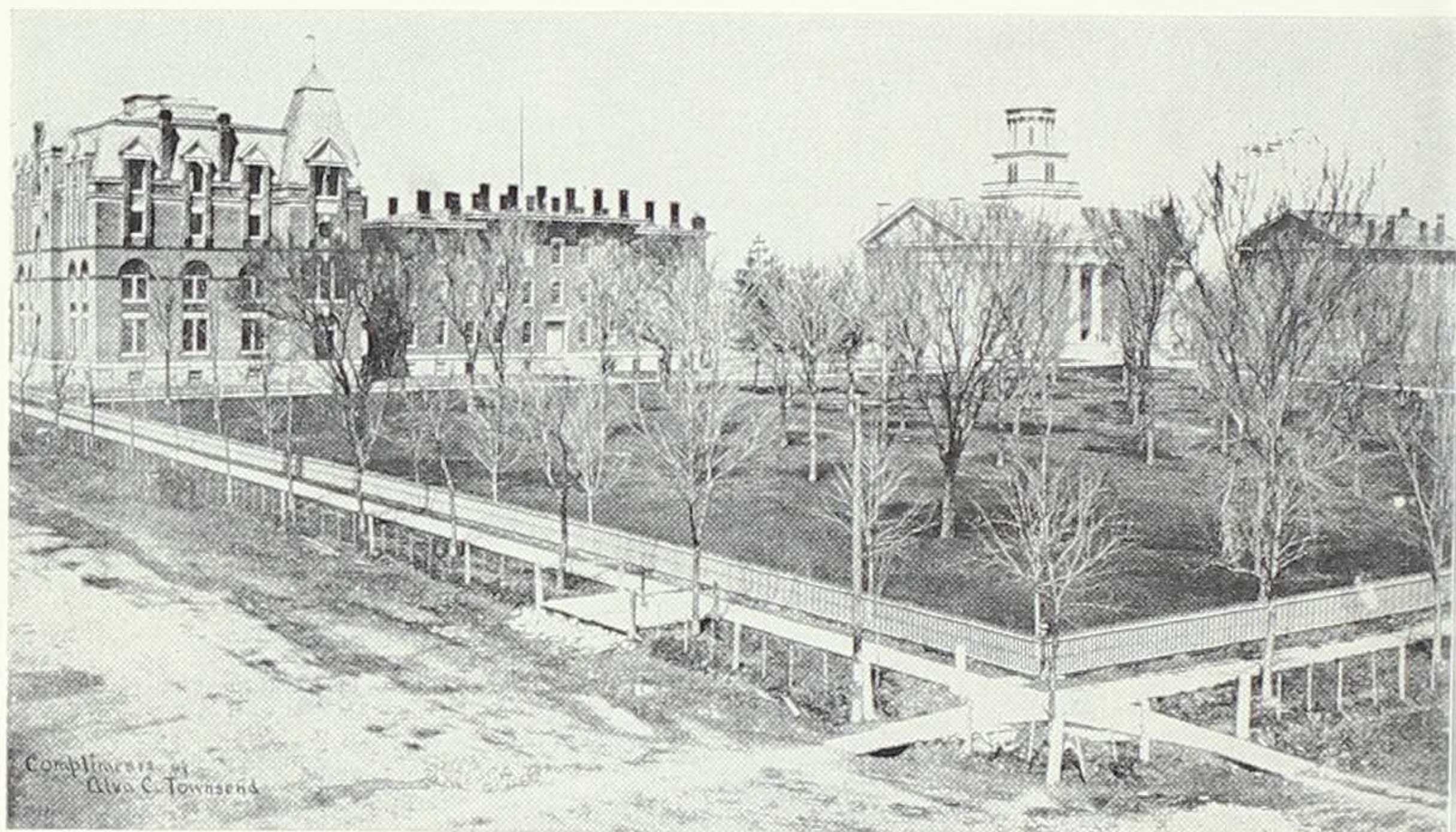


DEXTER EDSON SMITH  
First Graduate, 1858

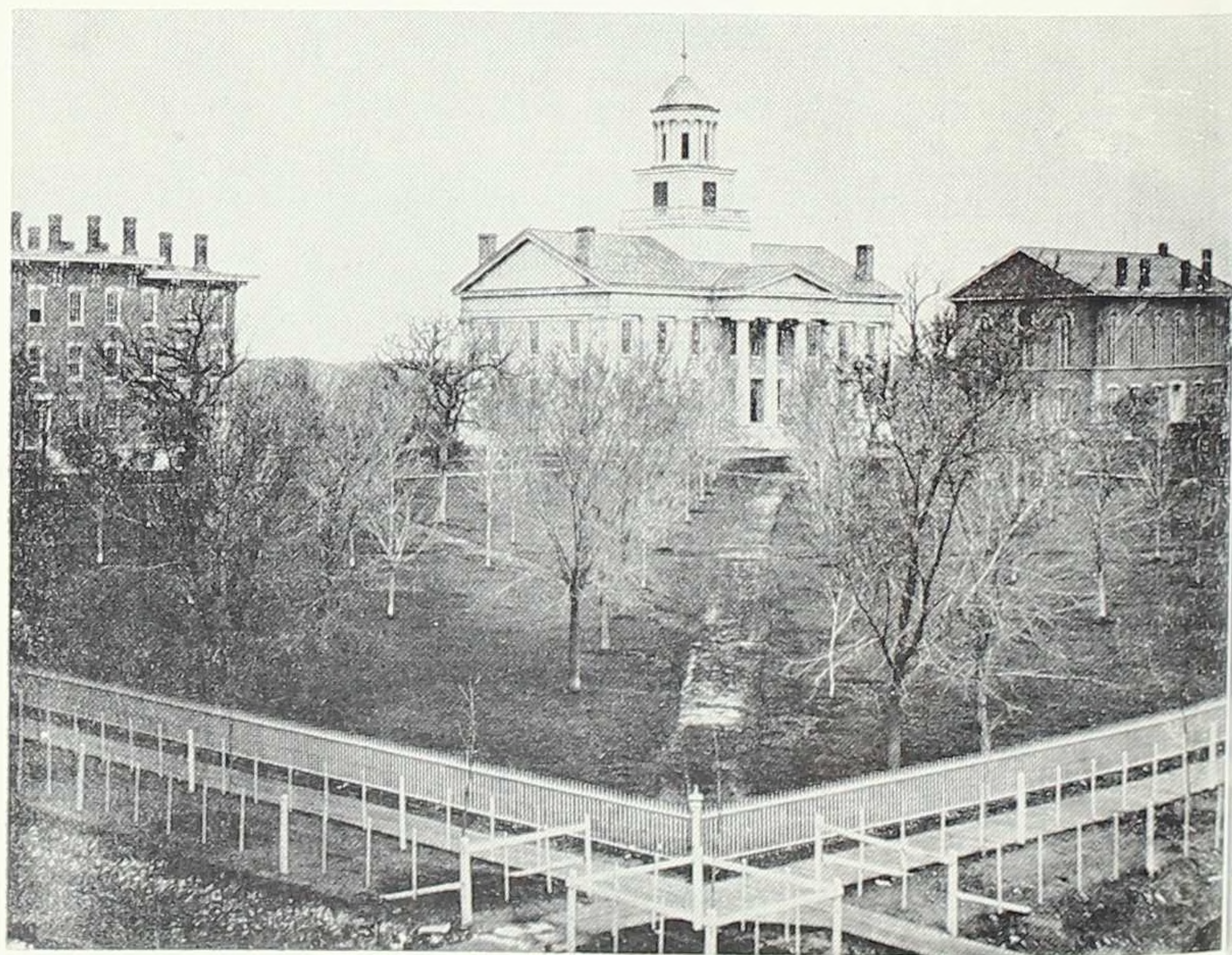


Mechanics Academy: First building used by the University, it stood on the site of East Hall. Classes met here from 1855-58. It was used later as a dormitory for men, and as the first hospital for the Department of Medicine.





The University in the 1890's: (Left to right) Old Medical Building; Old South Hall; Old Capitol; Old North Hall; Old Science Building, northwest of Old North Hall. (Not shown.)



The University in the late 1860's: Old South Hall; Old Capitol; Old North Hall. Ornamental fence was used to keep out the livestock. Young trees also shown.



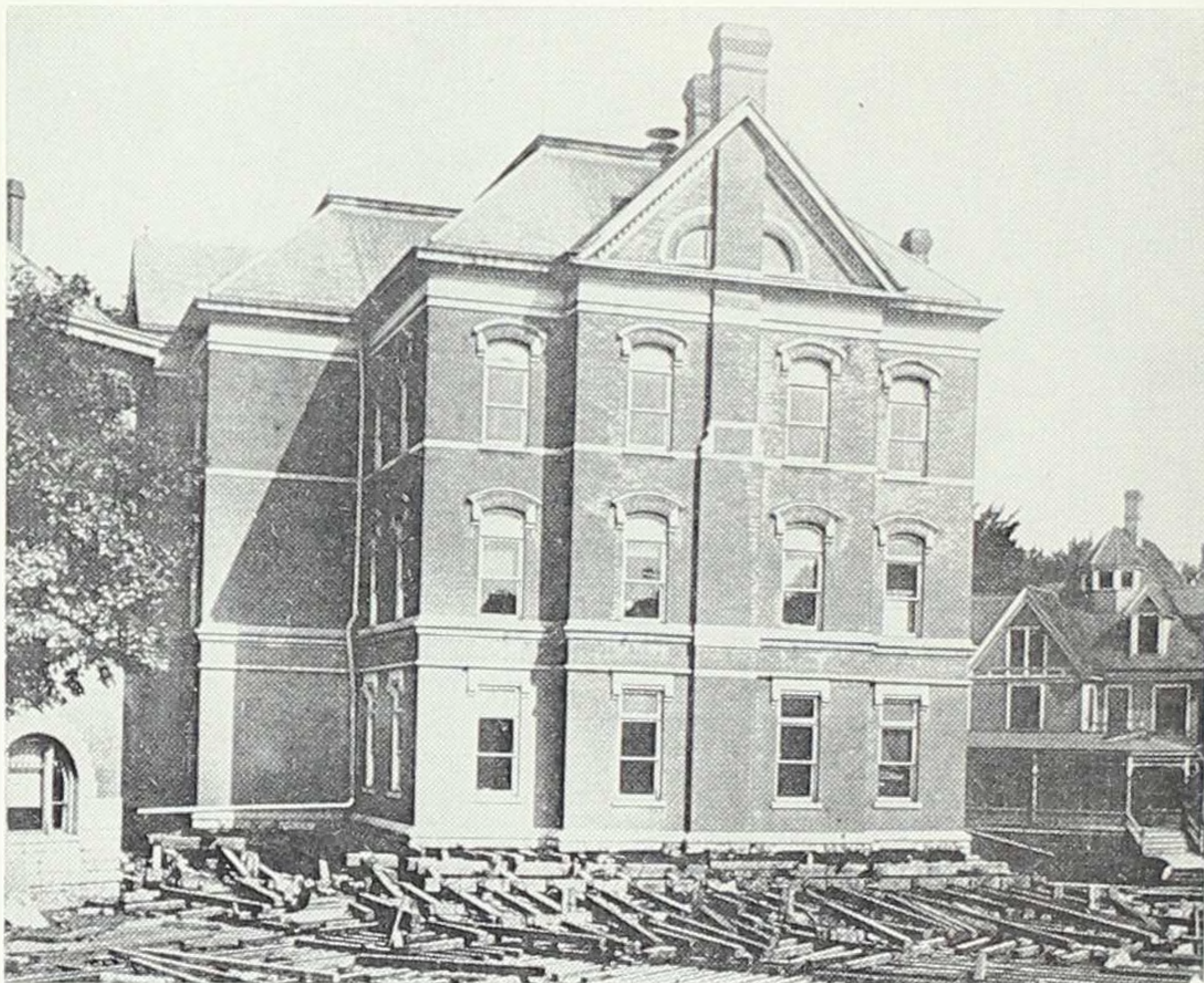
1860

1900

MEMBERS  
OF THE  
FACULTIESOF IOWA  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY

Members of the Faculties—1860-1900: (Left to right, top to bottom) Harriman, Sims, Van Steenderen, Houser, Wade; Breene, Wilson, Littig, Hosford; Hayes, Patrick, Gilchrist, Boerner, Andrews, McConnell; Newberry, Weld, McClain, President MacLean, Currier, Veblen, Rockwood; William Craig Wilcox, Loos, Macbride, Middleton, Calvin, Nutting, Bierring; Sham-ugh, Dean, E. A. Wilcox, Ansley, Reeves, Whiteis, Richards.





An extraordinary feat of engineering in 1895 was the moving of Old Science Hall from the present site of Macbride Hall to the corner of Capitol and Jefferson Streets.

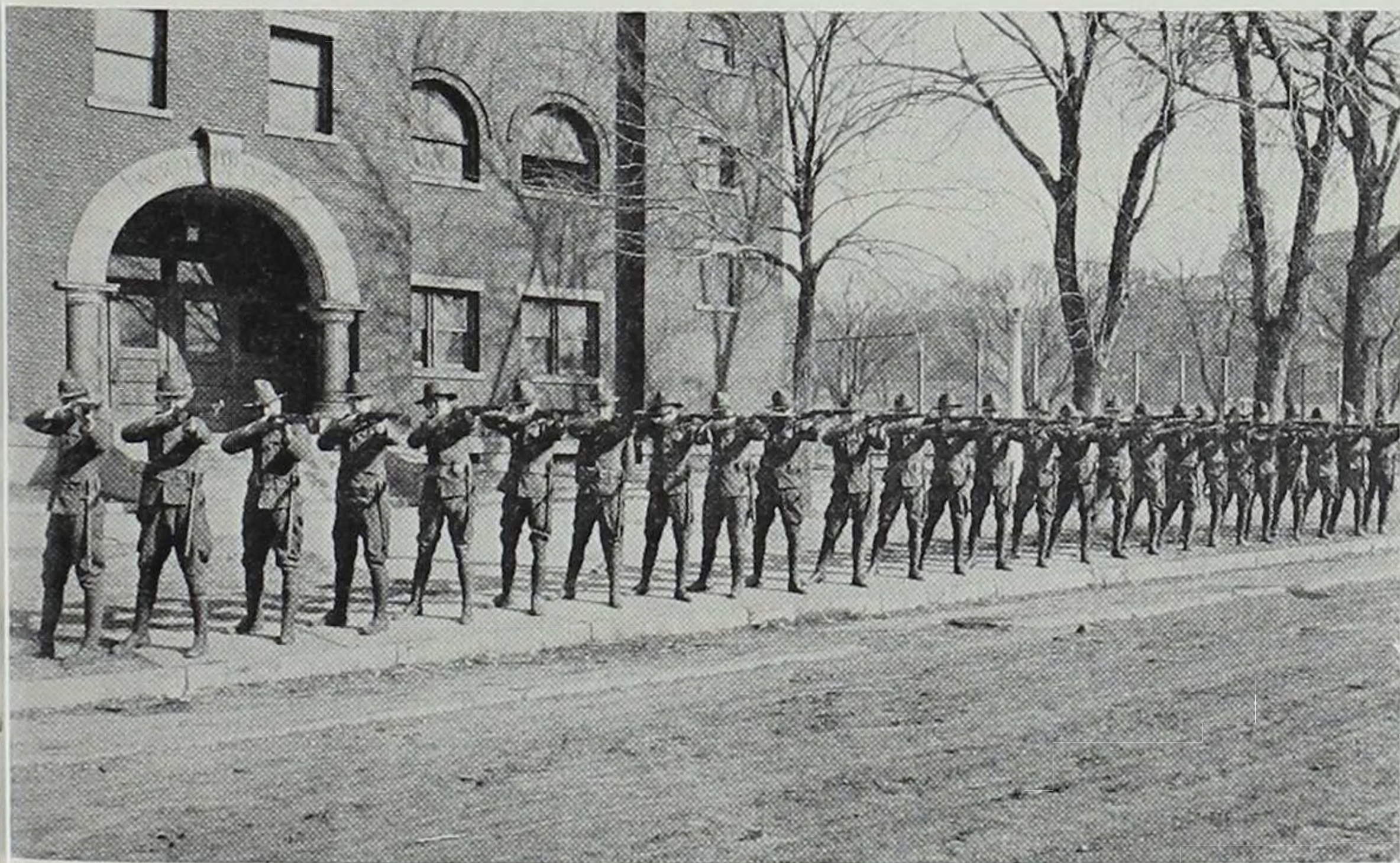


The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents, 1892-93: (Left to right) William J. Hadlock, secretary of the Board and the University, 1864-1902; Col. Albert W. Swalm, D. N. Richardson, chairman; Howard A. Burrell.





The Commencement parade of faculty and students from Old Capitol Campus to Old Armory. William Howard Taft, then Secretary of War, was Commencement speaker here in 1907.



S.A.T.C. company in formation in front of the Old Armory during World War I. Old Armory, with adjacent wooden mess hall, was headquarters for this program and served as a hospital during the flu epidemic of 1918.



# PRESIDENTS AND ACTING PRESIDENTS



Dean-1855-1859



Totten-1860-1862



Spencer-1862-1867



Black-1868-1870



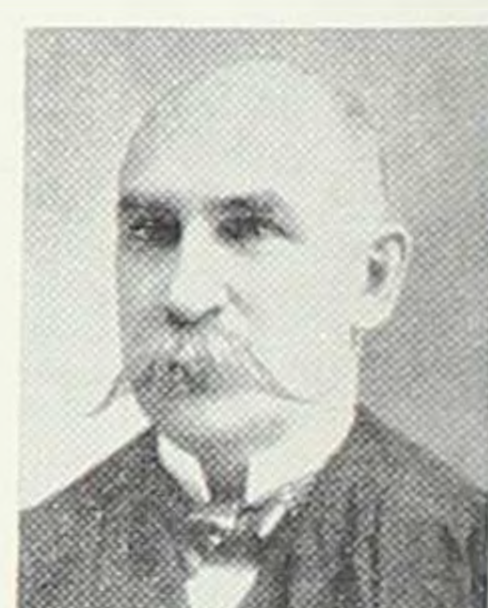
Thacher-1871-1877



Slagle-1877-1878



Pickard-1878-1887



Schaeffer-1887-1898



MacLean-1899-1911



Bowman-1911-1914



Macbride-1914-1916



Jessup-1916-1934



Gilmore-1934-1940



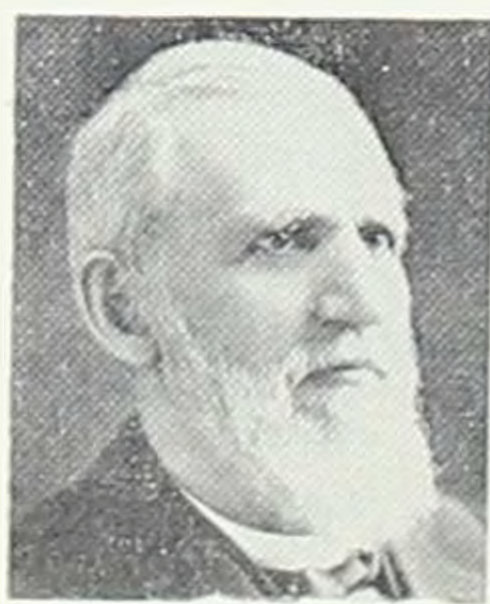
Hancher-1940-1964



Bowen-1964-1969



Boyd-1969-



Leonard-1867-1868



Currier-1898-1899



Phillips-1940



# SOME DEANS AND DIRECTORS



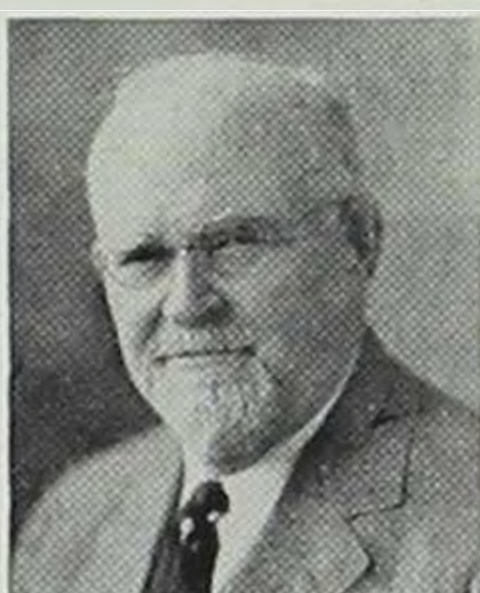
Seashore-Graduate



Teeters-Pharmacy



MacEwen-Medicine



Raymond-Eng.



Rutledge-Law



Houghton-Medicine



Packer-Education



Boerner-Pharmacy



Breenc-Dentistry



Burge-Dean, Women



Wilcox-Lib. Arts



Kay-Lib. Arts



Loehwing-Graduate



Williams-Eng.



Winter-Bus. Adm.



Rienow-Dean, Men



Dorcas-Registrar



Higbee-Convocations



Weller-Publications



Lambert-Eng.



Dill-Museum



Fitzgerald-I.M.U.



Wormer-Library

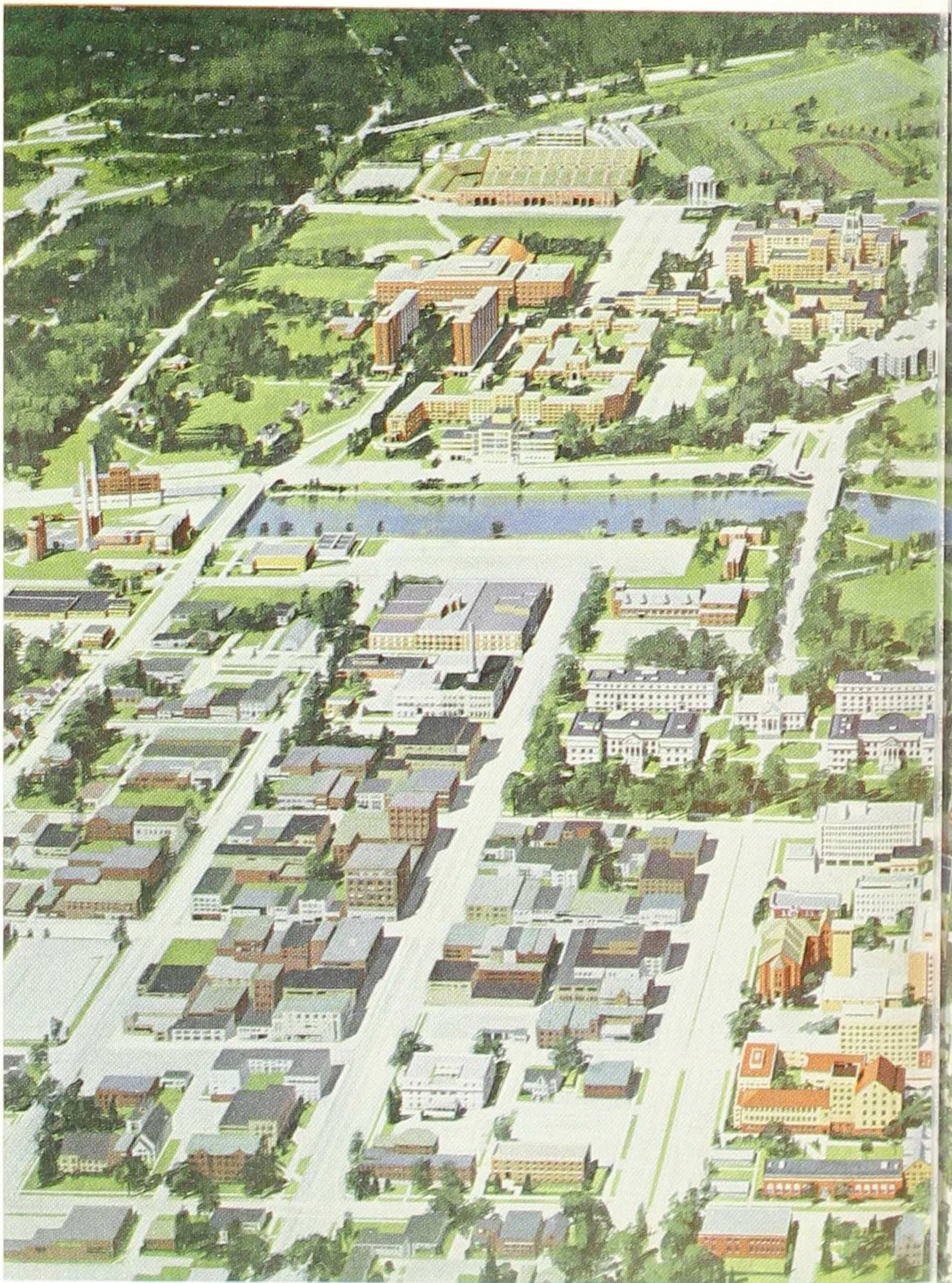


Mott-Journalism

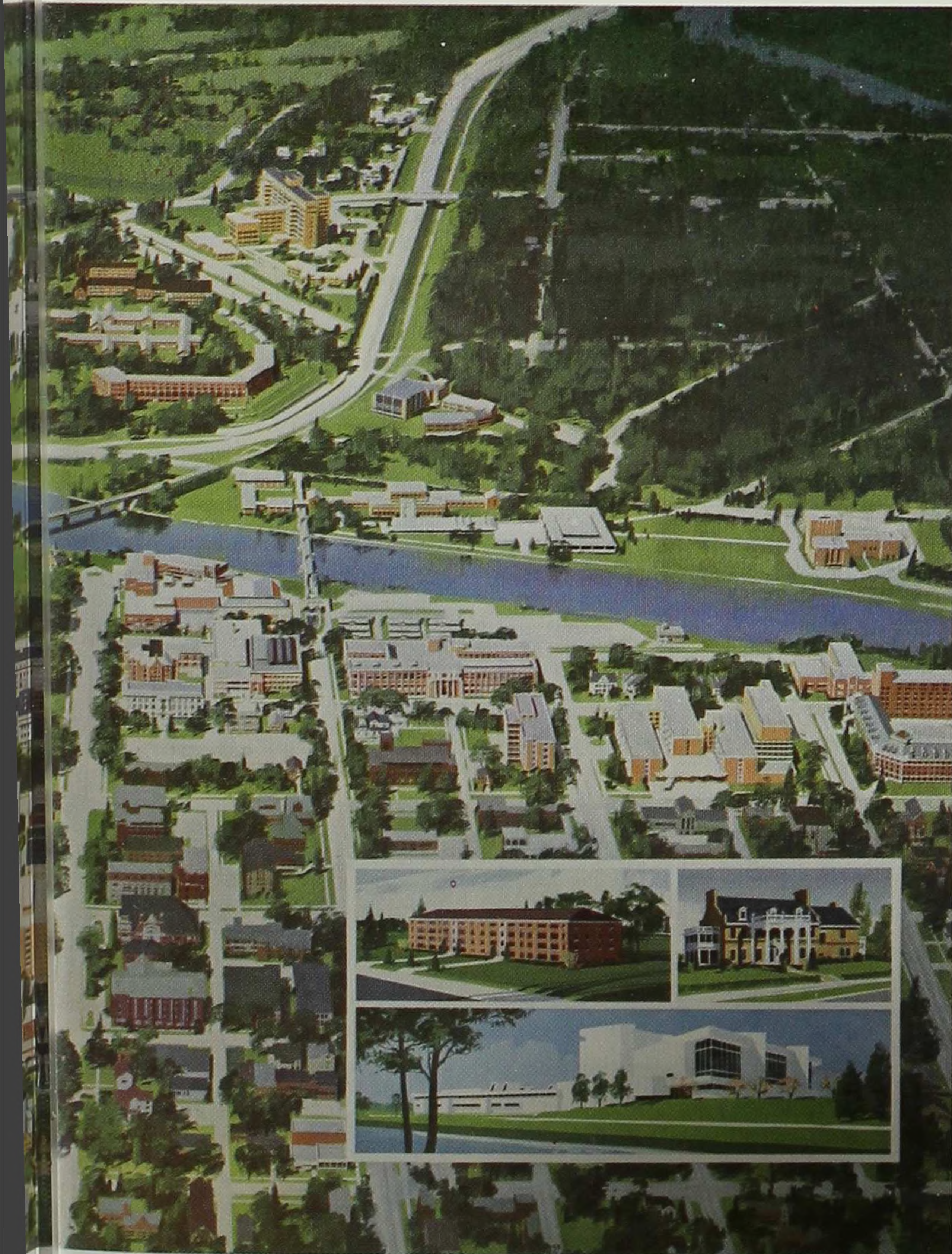


Daum-Nutrition









AN ARTIST'S VIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA CAMPUS — 1967





AN ARTIST'S VIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA CAMPUS — 1967



## SOME FACULTY MEMBERS



Bush-French



Prentiss-Medicine



Shimek-Botany



Steindler-Medicine



Loos-Economics



McLain-Law



Cooper-Pharmacy



Stewart-Physics



Starbuck-Philos.



Shambaugh-Pol. Sci.



Wilson-German



Patrick-Philos.



Clapp-Music



Nutting-Zoology



Horn-Education



Sloan-English



Bodine-Zoology



Bordwell-Law



Mabie-Dram. Art



Ensign-Education



## SOME ALUMNI AND FACULTY



Finkbine-Business



Hickenlooper-U.S.Sen.



Gallup-Opinion Poll



Lowden-Governor



Martin-U.S. Sen.



Gallagher-Law



Starch-Bus. Res.



Boyd-Finance



Ingham-Publisher



Lundy-Industry



Jones-Education



Stefansson-Explorer



Samuelson-Education



Corder-Nursing



Sieg-Univ. President



Hall-Publisher



Van Allen-Physics



Stanley-English

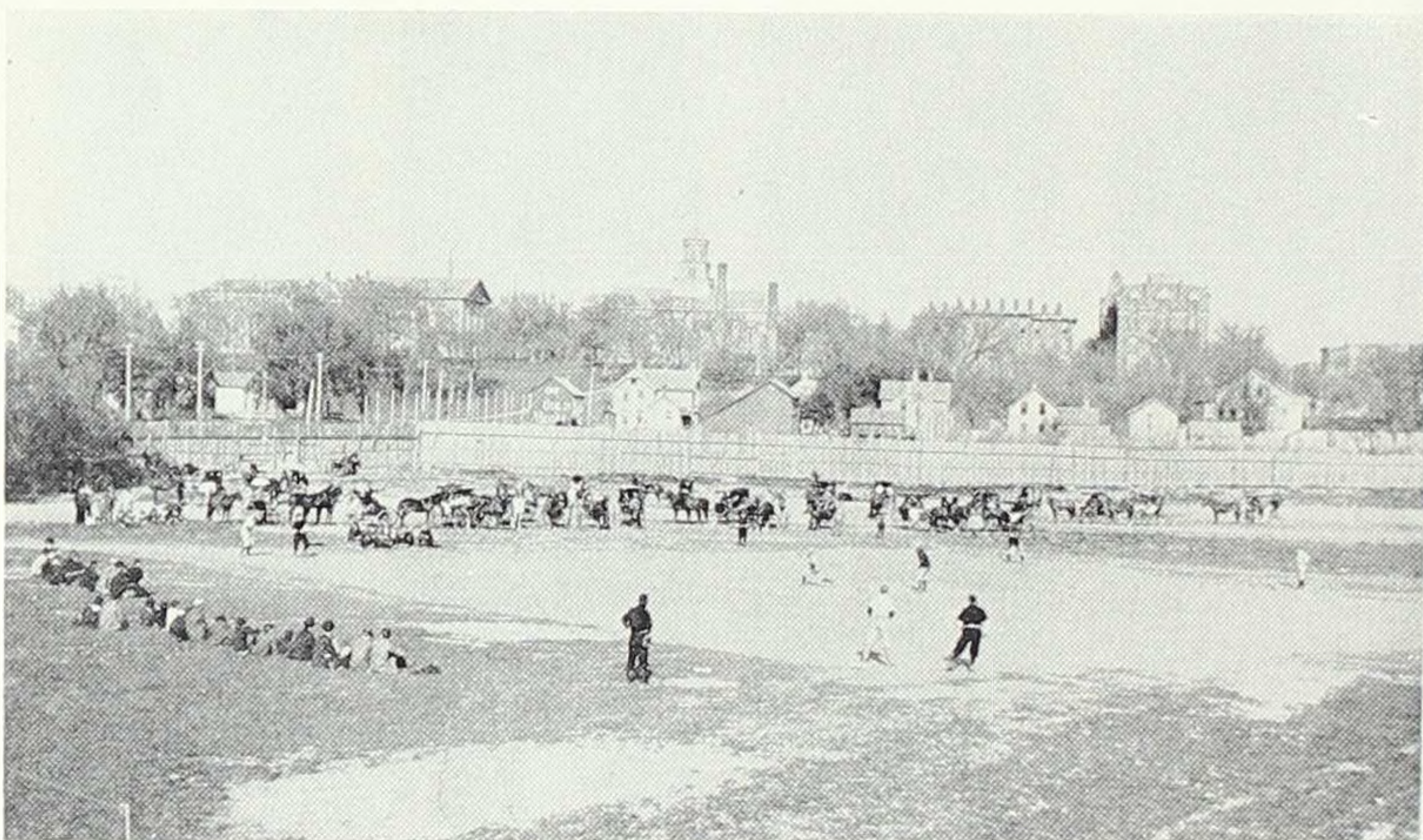


Lindquist-Testing

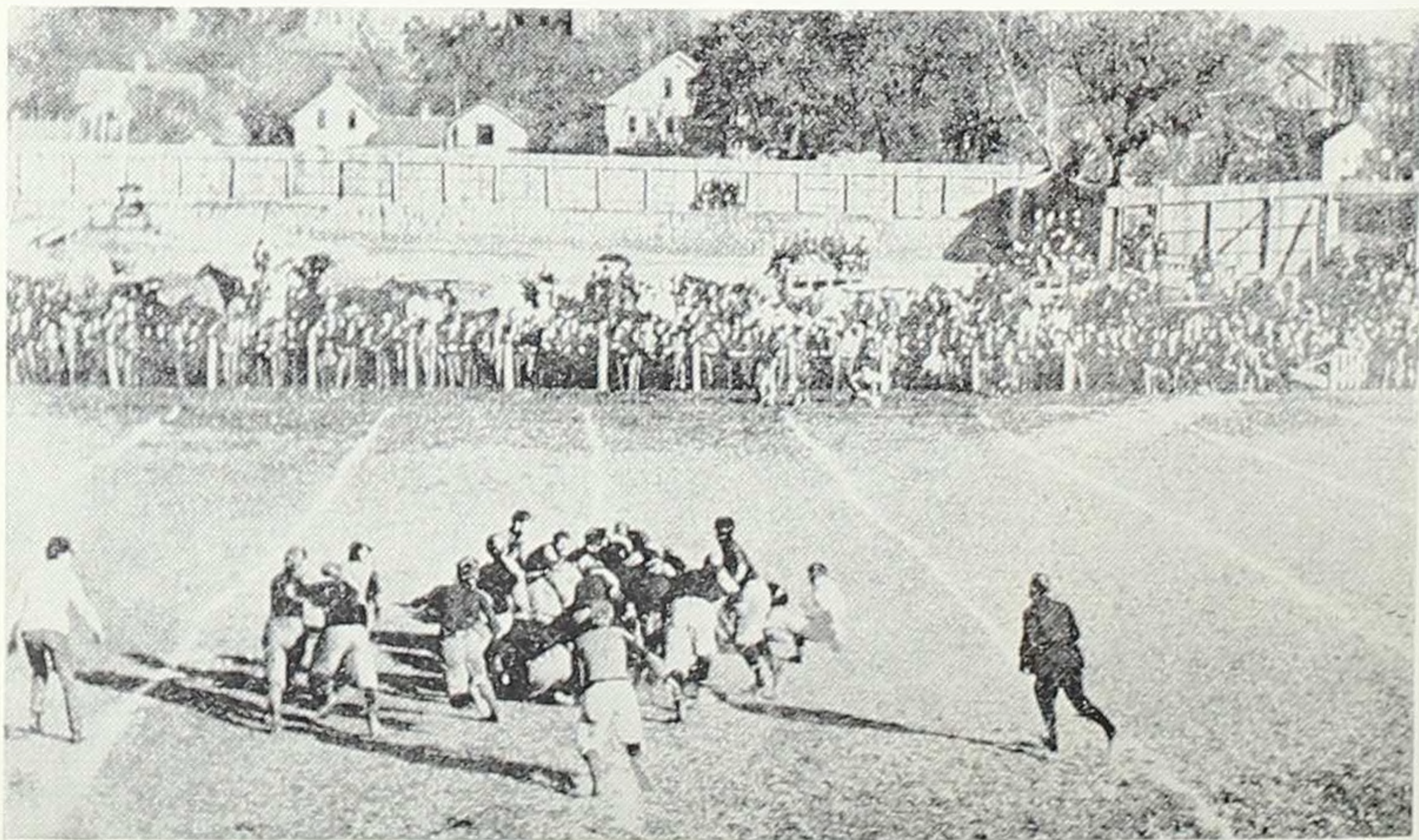


Davis-Univ. Provost



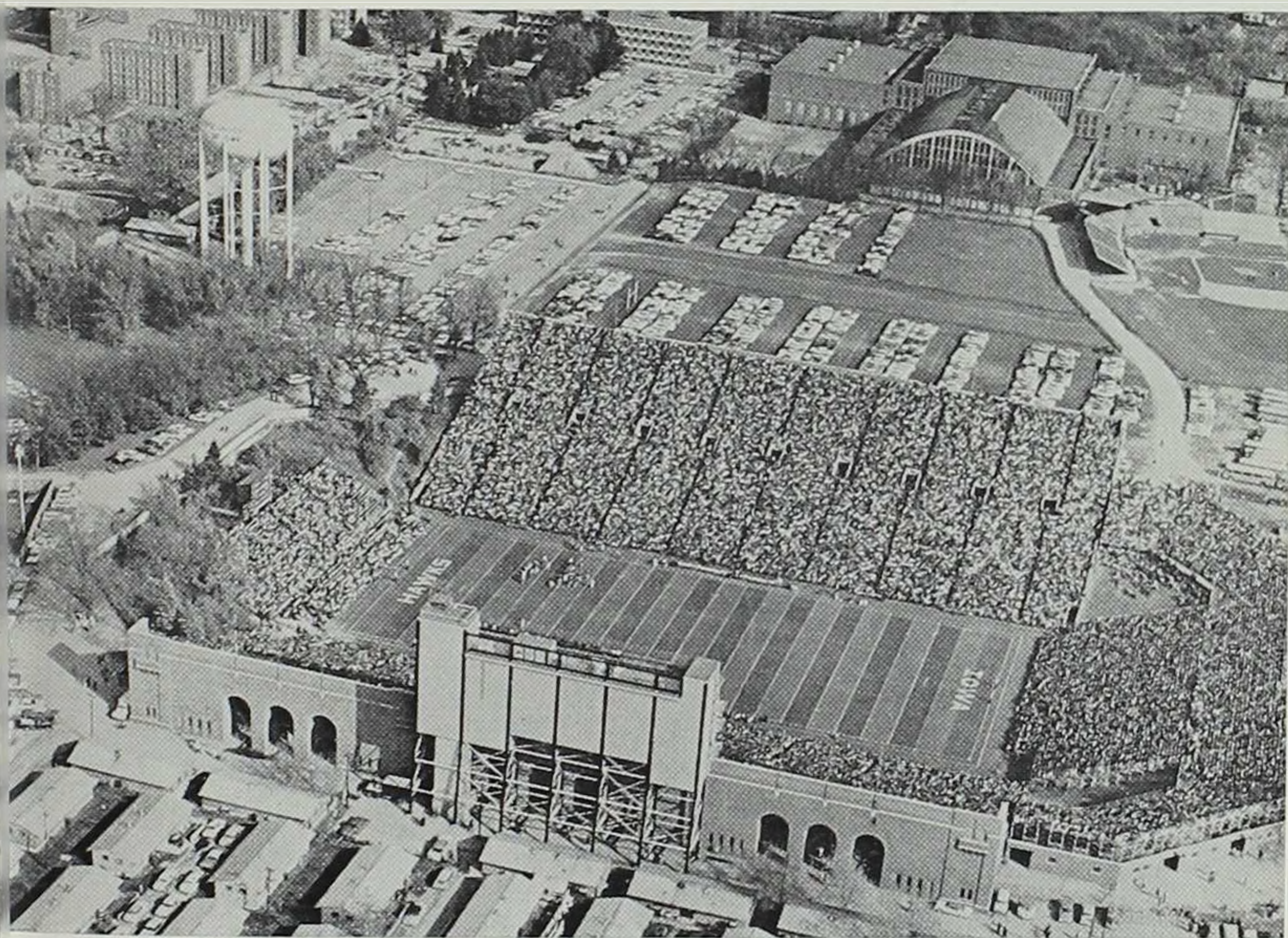


Baseball at Old Iowa Field in the 1890's: Spectators sat in buggies and on the ground. In the background, on the hill, stand: (Left to right) Old Dental Building, Old Science Hall, Old North Hall, Old Capitol, Heating Plant, Old South Hall, and Old Medical Building.



Football at Old Iowa Field in the 1890's: Spectators stood on both sides of the field. The championship teams of 1900, 1921, and 1922 played here. Steel bleachers on the west and wooden bleachers on the east and south, holding some 8,000 people, were built in later years.





The Iowa Stadium filled with 60,000 spectators for a Homecoming game. New press box is in the foreground. In the background are shown: (Left to right) The baseball diamond and grandstand, the Fieldhouse and Armory, intermural fields, the new Pharmacy Building, water tank, and new Hospital wings.

#### SOME HAWKEYE STARS OF YESTERYEAR



Duke Slater



Gordon Locke



Nile Kinnick

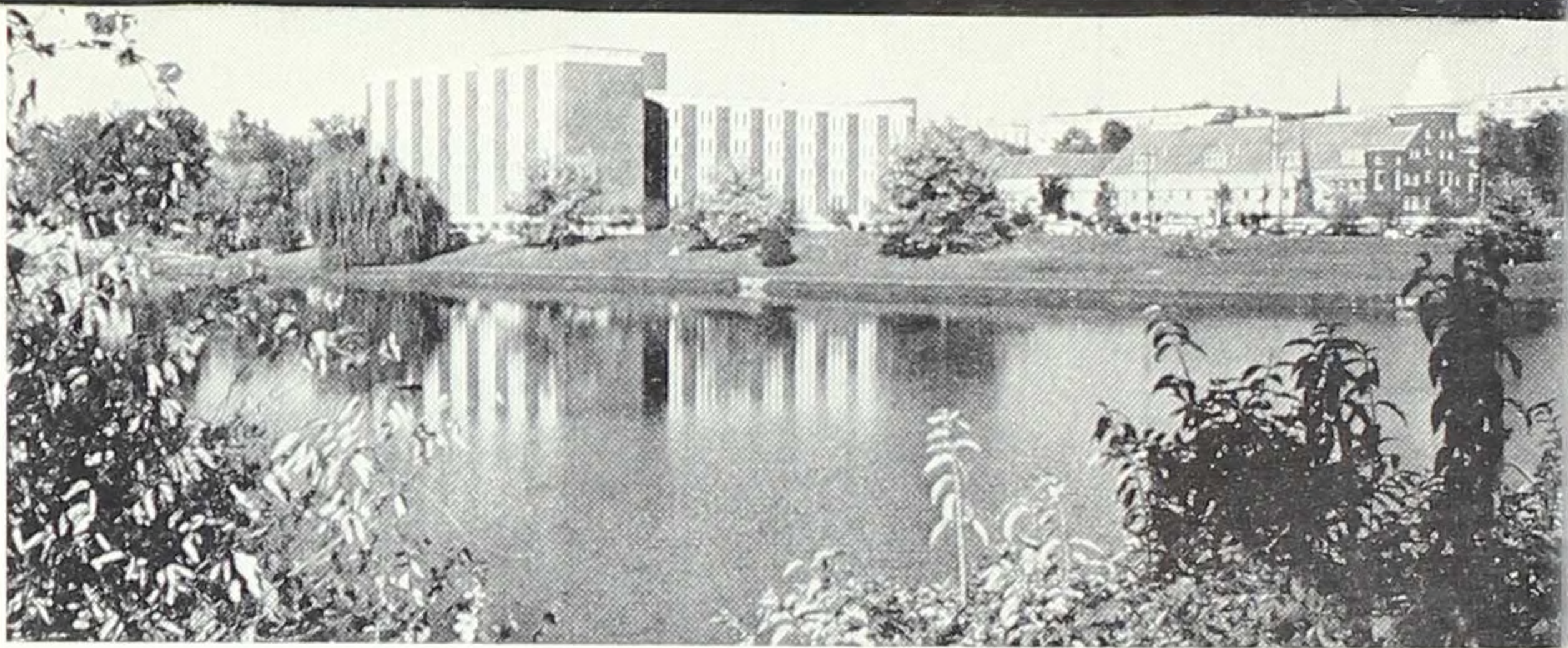


Aubrey Devine

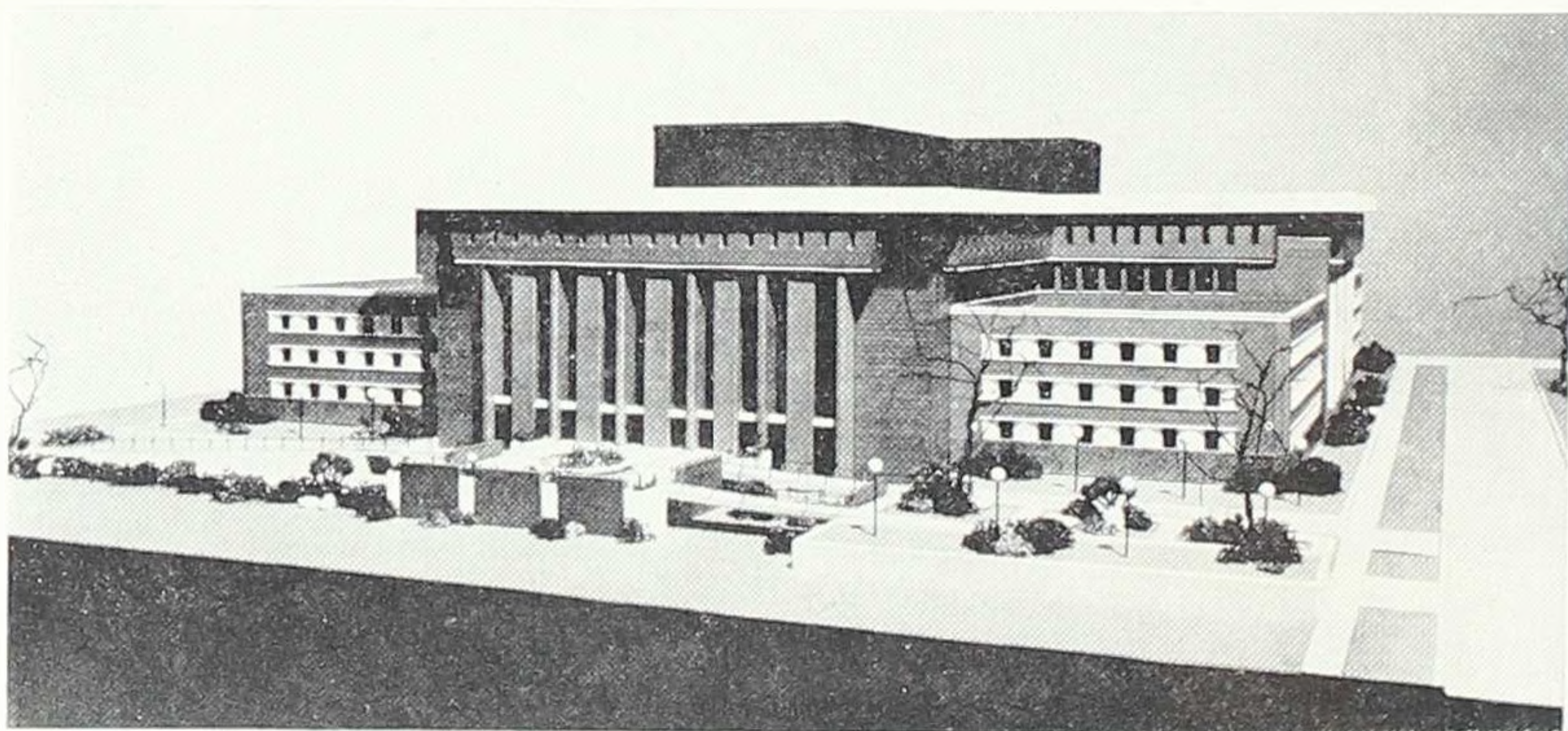


John V. Crum

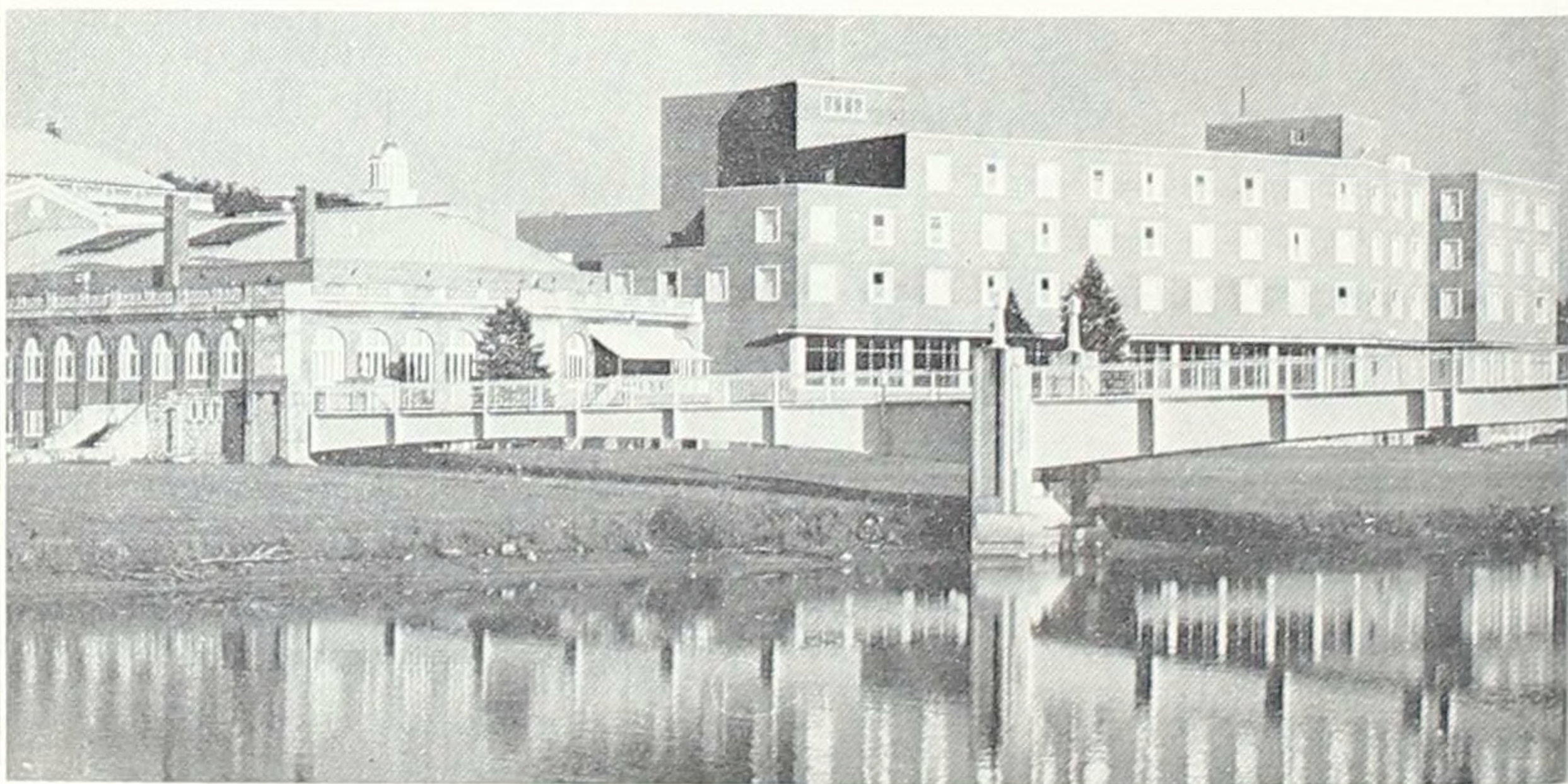




New Building for Department of English.



Architect's model of the University Library with new additions, viewed from the south.

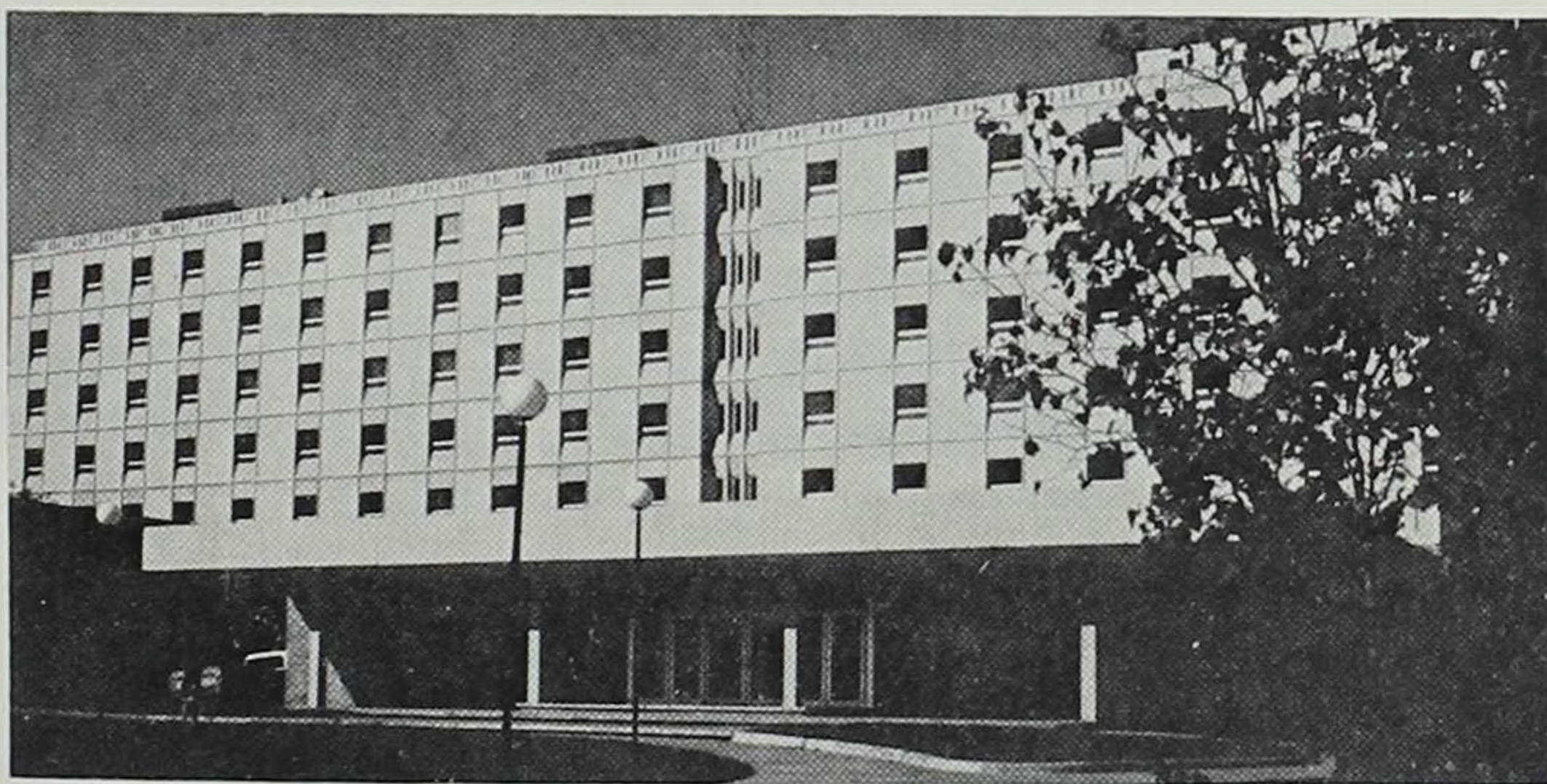


Iowa Memorial Union: Old Section, Iowa House, New Section.

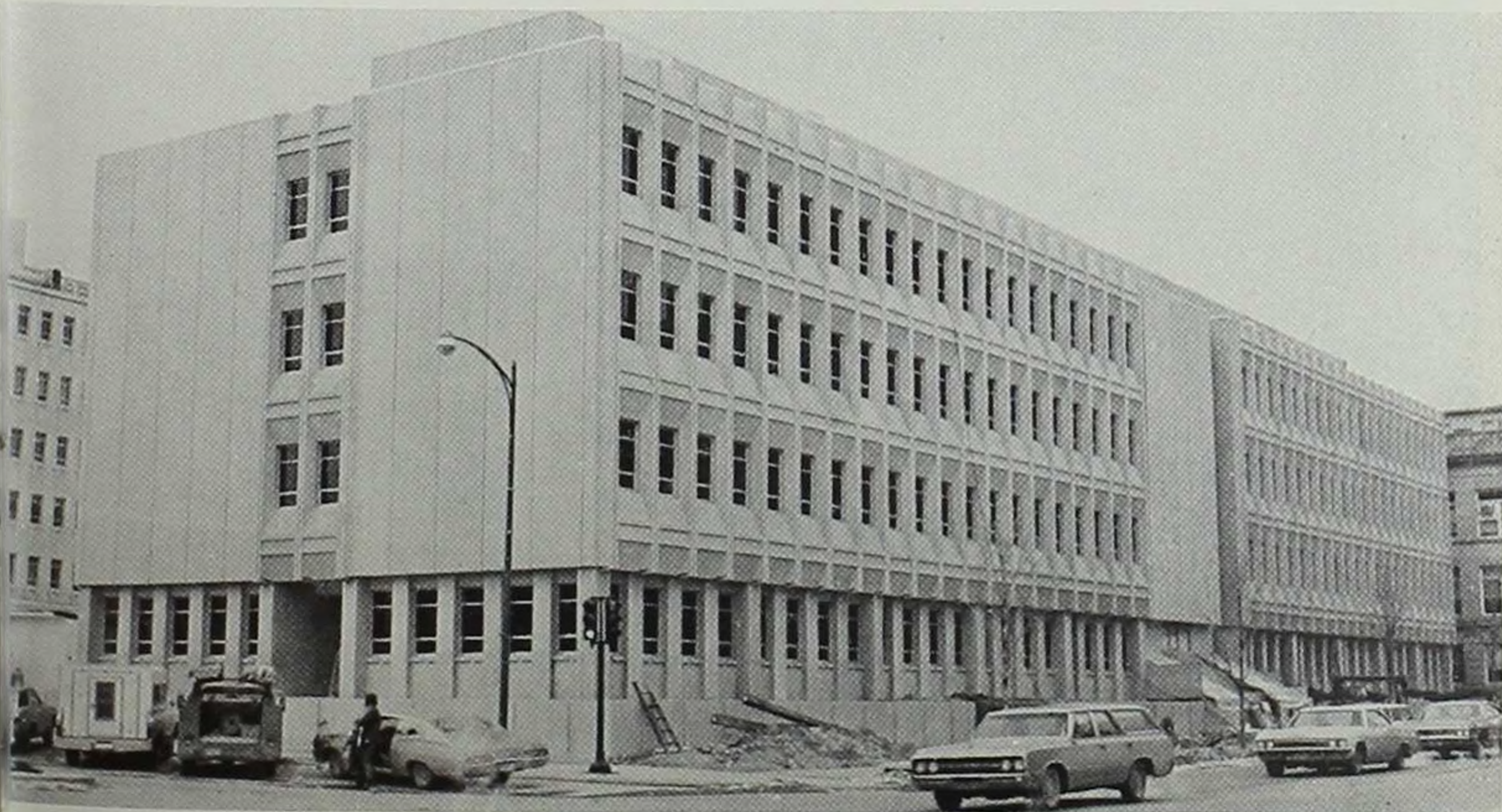




Phillips Hall, new home of the College of Business Administration.

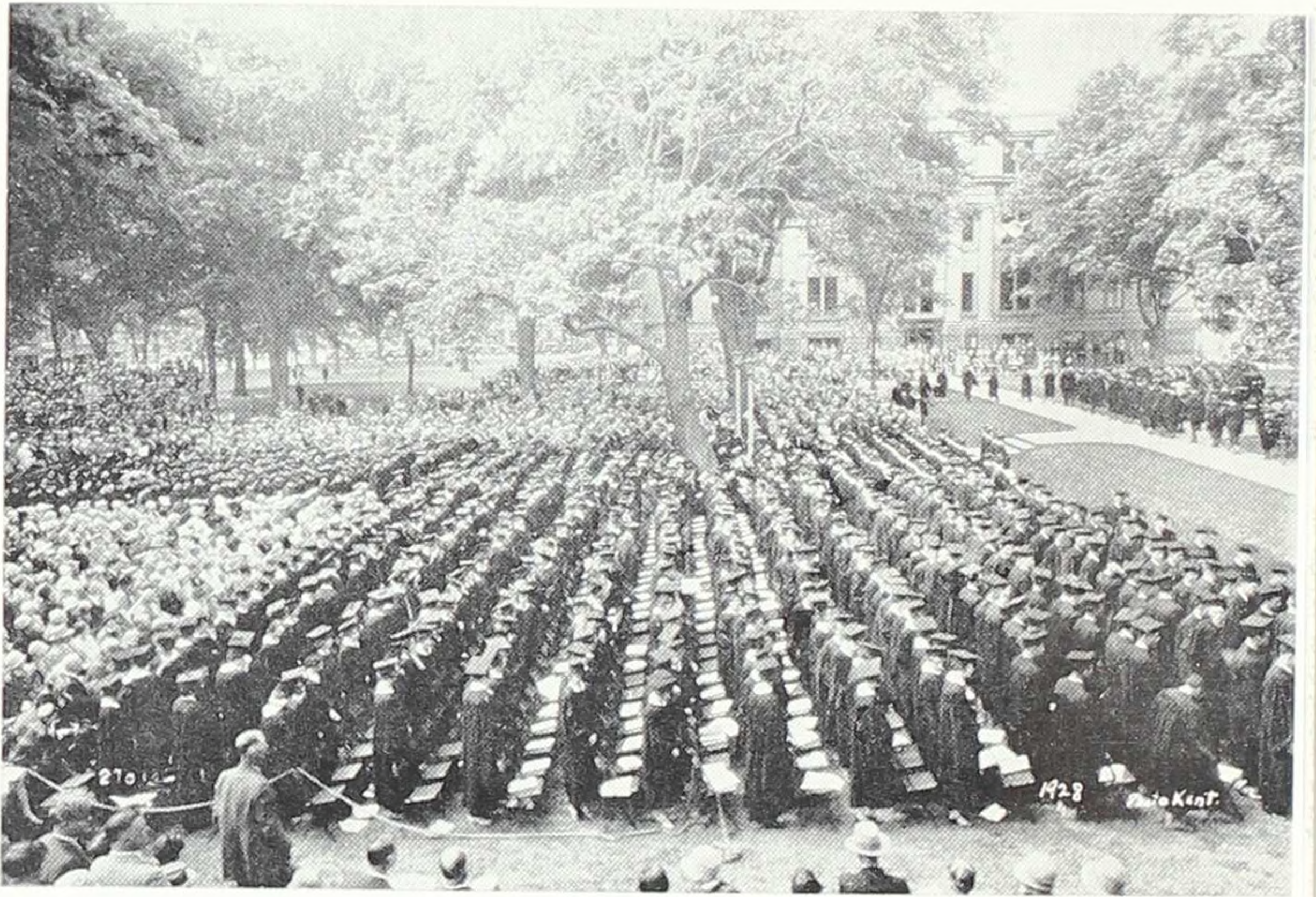


New Physics Building with entrance from Iowa Avenue.



New additions to Zoology Building. Old Building on the right.





Commencement under the trees in front of Old Capitol.



Commencement exercises are held in the Fieldhouse today. Some 1,200 to 1,500 graduates and 8,000 to 10,000 spectators attend. Deans and faculty members are seated on the platform.



driving to 165 enlisted men. Medical students enlisted in the Medical Reserve but stayed in school. University women were active in the Liberty Loan drives, Y.W.C.A. and Red Cross, knitting, and supporting French war orphans. Speeding up the academic program began in June, 1918.

The S.A.T.C. program, begun on October 1, 1918, was unsuccessful due to difficulties in adjusting its program to that of the University and the severe influenza epidemic. The University was quarantined and military law governed the campus. Hospitals were full. Emergency hospitals were established in University buildings, the Masonic Temple, and Elks Club. Thirty-one men and seven nurses died.

Armistice Day, November 11, 1918, found the influenza epidemic abated and the S.A.T.C. program was no longer needed. It had cost a total of \$237,374.21—of which \$108,575 was paid by the government; \$128,799.21 by the University.

The war record of the University was an impressive one. On the home front, in camps, and overseas, Iowa men and women acquitted themselves in a fitting manner. Former President George E. MacLean was Secretary of the London Branch of the American University in Europe. Fifty-three faculty members were in the armed forces; others served in the Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., and other organizations. Professor Stephen H. Bush spent twenty months in France. He was



American Dean of the Army Educational Corps and was cited twice by the French for bravery.

One of the University's heroes was Lieutenant Fred H. Becker (Ex '19) of Waterloo, who died in action somewhere in France on July 21, 1918. He was an outstanding athlete in high school and college and rated "All American" in 1917. Another hero was Sgt. John Frank Grubb, killed in France, November 5, 1918. A note in his hand read: "They got me but I got two of them first."

The University furnished some 1,500 men to the various services. Forty-one were killed.

The year, 1919, was used to return the University to peacetime operation. Captain Morton C. Mumma, Military Department commandant, President Jessup, and the State Board of Education succeeded in getting the General Assembly to make an appropriation for a new Armory to replace the inadequate one in use during the war. It was built on the west side of the river after steel prices tumbled. The Quadrangle, built during the war with Federal and State funds as a barracks, was taken over as a dormitory for men.

The governing body of the University during the Jessup administration was the State Board of Education which had been established by law in 1909. It consisted of nine members, not more than five of which could belong to the same political party and not more than three alumni with only one from each institution. It had a full-time sal-



aried Finance Committee (three members) appointed by the Board. Presidents of the Board in Jessup's time were D. D. Murphy and George T. Baker. Chairman of the Finance Committee throughout was W. R. Boyd.

The relationship between President Jessup and both the Board and Finance Committee was cordial, harmonious, and cooperative. His salary was raised to \$18,000 in the mid-twenties, remaining at that figure until the depression of the thirties.

In 1925 the General Assembly ordered a survey of the institutions under the Board of Education and called in Dr. Samuel P. Capen, University of Buffalo Chancellor, for consultation. He selected President Edward C. Elliott of Purdue University and President George F. Zook of Akron University to assist him. Visits were made to the institutions in November, 1925. The final report was submitted to Governor John Hammill on June 10, 1926. All in all it was favorable to the University and its operations. This was true also of the Brookings Institution survey of 1933.

President Jessup secured the best men he could find for positions in the University and gave them authority to produce. He constantly sought to improve the salary schedule. Early in his administration, 1917, he secured William F. Russell of Teachers College, Columbia University, as Dean of the College of Education. When Russell returned to Teachers College in 1922, Jessup select-



ed Paul C. Packer as his successor. Packer was followed by Dean E. T. Peterson. The University became a national center for the production and distribution of educational tests and measurements under the supervision of Professors H. A. Greene and E. E. Lindquist.

In the early 1920's Dean Raymond and others established WSUI, the first educational radio station west of the Mississippi. Professor Carl Menzer of the Engineering faculty operated the station from its beginning to his retirement in 1968.

As president of the University, Jessup tried to keep the school in the good graces of the legislators. Through letters, University hospitality, Homecoming, explanation of building needs such as the Children's Hospital and Psychopathic Hospital, and close personal contacts he secured their support. Friends of the University rallied when unfriendly legislation threatened.

Increased attendance during the Jessup years helped secure needed support. The University enrollment increased every year from 1916 to 1931. In 1916 it was 3,523, in 1931 the total was 9,901. From 1931 to 1934 there was a slight decrease.

Foremost among the successful projects of the Jessup administration was the Rockefeller gift which enabled the University to build a modern medical center on the west campus. President Jessup, George T. Baker, and W. R. Boyd, assisted by Abraham Flexner, secured a grant of \$2,-



250,000 from the Rockefeller Foundation and the General Education Board with the proviso that the sum would be matched by the State. The 40th General Assembly held the fate of the project in its hands. The State Medical Society supported the measure, as did most of the state newspapers. The Senate passed the bill, 33-15, and the House, 87-17. The bill became law on April 4, 1923.

Following this action work began on the buildings. The Medical Laboratories were occupied in 1927; the General Hospital was dedicated on November 15, 16, 17, 1928. Thus the College of Medicine acquired adequate space and equipment for clinical work and research and the University could furnish increased medical service to the State. Space released on the east campus saved the State at least a million dollars in construction.

Other needed expenditures were for student housing. The Quadrangle, first dormitory for men, was paid for by the Federal Government and the University, and housed 300 men. It cost approximately \$160,000. The 41st General Assembly considered a bill to permit the Board of Education to borrow money for dormitories and pledge the dormitory income for repayment. This bill passed both the Senate and the House on April 2, 1925, and was signed by the Governor.

By September 17, 1925, the Quadrangle had been doubled in size to accommodate 700 men at a cost of \$150,000. This enlargement was followed



two years later by an expansion of Currier Hall.

Salary increases for faculty and staff were constant during the Jessup administration—except during the depression years. His ability to present the needs of the University to the Legislature was impressive and effective. He would explain the needs, item by item, to the Appropriations Committee, using charts and graphs. He related the needs to the experiences of the legislators in homely, understandable terms, and won their support.

One object which Jessup desired to accomplish eluded all his efforts—an adequate central library. It first appeared in the proposed University budget for 1916. The survey commission of 1916 listed the need for a library as paramount, but war interfered with any action by the Legislature. Again in 1927, 1929, and 1931 he sought unsuccessfully to secure funds. He tried without success to interest eastern foundations in the library.

The resignation of W. J. McChesney as treasurer of the University was accepted on February 15, 1932, and Flave L. Hamborg was appointed to the position. W. H. Cobb was named comptroller. The general depression of 1932-1933 resulted in an economy program for the University—a 5% reduction in salaries. The 40th General Assembly in 1933 further restricted salaries and limited the President's salary to \$10,000.

When Jessup became president in 1916, residences, small stores, and various buildings occu-



pied spaces between scattered University buildings outside Old Capitol square. By 1934 many of the residences and buildings had been acquired for University expansion. In 1916 the area of the campus was 42 acres; in 1934 it was 324.61 acres. The value of the University buildings and equipment in 1916 was \$4,134,807.26; in 1934 it was \$18,743,342.98.

This phenomenal growth came about through the dreams of Walter Jessup. The 37th General Assembly provided funds to construct a new Armory, the Children's Hospital, to preserve and fire-proof Old Capitol, and for paving and sidewalks. The 38th General Assembly provided funds for the Psychopathic Hospital. Dr. Samuel T. Orton was appointed head. Both hospitals, similar in architecture, were built on the bluffs west of the Iowa Avenue bridge.

When Governor Nate Kendall broke ground for the new Hospital and Medical Laboratories complex west of the Iowa River on June 17, 1924, he said: "As chief executive of the Commonwealth, I offer to the ages the benefits which are to accrue from the transcendent and humanitarian enterprise we today inaugurate." Dedication ceremonies for the new General Hospital were held in November, 1928.

Additional funds were secured from the 41st General Assembly for a heating plant on the east side of the Iowa River below the dam. Steam and



power lines to the west side were constructed in a tunnel on the downstream side of the dam. The greatest period of physical growth in the Jessup administration came in the decade 1920-1930. Some construction was in progress each year.

The Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research, begun in 1931, became one of the foremost research centers of its type in the world.

In 1930, the Board approved moving the Electrical Engineering unit, equipped for research in TV, to the first two floors of the old Chemistry Building, with Engineering Drawing on the third floor. A Mechanical Engineering laboratory was built on the site of the old heating plant on Madison Street.

The Chemistry-Botany-Pharmacy Building on Capitol Street, north of Old Capitol, was built in 1923 and University Hall was erected in the Pentacrest group in 1924, both to alleviate crowded conditions.

Both the 37th and the 40th General Assemblies appropriated \$50,000 each to fireproof and rehabilitate Old Capitol. The work was completed in July, 1924. Administrative offices were scattered during this much-needed program. Landscaping of the west approach in 1925 and 1926 and the installation of floodlights to illuminate Old Capitol added dignity and harmony to the Pentacrest.

On the west side of the Iowa River the new Fieldhouse added a "cathedral of sports" to the



campus. With Old Iowa Field becoming obsolete, plans for a Stadium west of the Fieldhouse and Armory were made. Completed in 1929, the Stadium provided new facilities for football. Nearby a new baseball diamond and a new cinder track were built. Bleachers from Old Iowa Field, designed and constructed by Professor B. J. Lambert, were removed and made into balconies for basketball crowds in the Fieldhouse.

The gift of Finkbine Field—175 acres—by the Finkbine brothers, W. O. and E. C., announced at commencement, June 3, 1924, made possible a first class golf course for the University. This land was located west of the new Stadium, convenient to the west side sports complex.

John M. Fisk was Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds during this period and Professor B. P. Fleming built the tunnel system for handling heat and utility distribution throughout the campus.

With the increase of enrollment following World War I, the Board took steps to alleviate the housing problem. The inner tier, added to the Quadrangle in 1925, an addition to Currier Hall in 1927, and the building of Eastlawn for a nurses' home in 1928 helped relieve the housing shortage.

During this period the University rented space or used acquired buildings for various activities—the basement of the Dey Building for the Extension Division, the old Kellogg School as a cooperative dormitory for men, a tent city for Summer



Session students near Kellogg School on the west campus, and other homes as cooperative dormitories for men and women.

The Fine Arts building and later the University Theatre on the west bank of the Iowa River, a footbridge across the river west of Iowa Memorial Union, all were a part of this general development.

Periodic crises and criticisms beset the Jessup administration, but he overcame them through the steady support of the State Board of Education. A few State newspapers were unfriendly to the University, but W. Earl Hall, *Mason City Gazette* editor, and many others were outspoken champions.

Efforts to abolish compulsory military training at the University began as early as 1926. While the program was defended by President Jessup and the Board, pacifist agitation continued to grow. Colonel Converse K. Lewis succeeded Colonel Mumma on August 1, 1928, and took up the defense of military training. The Board held hearings in Des Moines where proponents and opponents were heard. On December 10, 1931, the Board decided not to change the status quo of the military program.

In the spring of 1927 President Jessup faced a major crisis in the College of Medicine. Efforts had been made to pass the Wamstad bill in the 42nd (1927) and 43rd (1929) sessions of the General Assembly. This bill would have nullified existing laws on treatment of indigents. W. R.



Boyd said, "The bill would have decentralized state medical service to the counties; greatly reduced the supply of clinical material; caused duplication of service facilities; increased taxes; sacrificed efficiency; and possibly destroyed the College of Medicine." It was a move against University doctors having private patients and using University facilities. Dissatisfaction with the assignment of private patients and discontent with administrative practices spearheaded the trouble in the College of Medicine.

On May 30 the College of Medicine faculty sent a letter to President Jessup which contained itemized demands of nine points including more faculty control of the College. The State Board of Education advised that personal items be dropped from the demands and noted that requests for faculty control could not be granted in a tax-supported institution. This was accepted by most of the faculty but was opposed by some. With the appointment of Dr. Henry S. Houghton as Dean of the College and Robert E. Neff as administrative director of University Hospitals, the protest quieted down.

The athletic crisis of 1929 was another major problem. In the post-war years physical education for men and women was under the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts while intercollegiate athletics was under the direction of a Board in Control of Athletics comprised of a representative



from each college, appointed by President Jessup, the captains of the varsity teams, and one alumnus. The Board conducted intercollegiate athletics in line with Western Conference regulations and University policy.

Football fortunes had reached great heights under Coach Howard Jones—Big Ten Champions in 1921 and Co-Champions in 1922 with the University of Michigan. A plan was formulated to combine Physical Education and Athletics. Coach Jones opposed this as well as certain proposed measures of the Board in Control of Athletics. He resigned.

The State Board of Education approved the proposed Division of Physical Education and Athletics in March, 1924, and Dr. Paul E. Belting of the University of Illinois was appointed Director. In early summer the Board in Control of Athletics passed a resolution giving up its function as a controlling body to become an advisory board.

The Big Ten football championship of 1921 focused attention on Iowa. Alumni, it was charged, were unduly active in aiding athletes. Coach Bert Ingwersen and Director Belting became the targets of alumni opposition. The Athletic Board advised no change and endorsed the work of Belting, Ingwersen, and Dr. Walter Fiesler, trainer.

A group of 75 alumni met in Des Moines and organized the Federation of University Alumni. Its aims were to get rid of Belting and Ingwersen



and to appoint three alumni to the Athletic Board. The State Board of Education denied this request.

Meantime the University Alumni Association recommended that Professor Frederic G. Higbee be appointed Executive Secretary of the Association and that he be the alumni representative on the Athletic Board. This was approved by President Jessup and in October, 1928, he also added W. Earl Hall of Mason City and Rush Butler of Chicago as alumni representatives on the Athletic Board. With opposition to Belting and Ingwersen continuing, Belting offered to resign. The State Board of Education accepted his resignation on May 15, 1929, and approved the appointment of Director E. H. Lauer of the Extension Division as Director of Physical Education and George J. Bresnahan as Director of Intercollegiate Athletics.

On May 25 Big Ten faculty representatives, meeting at Evanston, Illinois, recommended that Iowa be suspended for improper recruiting of athletes and that athletic relations should be severed on January 1, 1930.

Major Griffith met with President Jessup and the Athletic Board in Iowa City to discuss the charges against Iowa. Iowa representatives asked for immediate consideration of all charges and the reason for Iowa's suspension. President Jessup, Director Lauer, and Faculty Representative Louis Pelzer went to Chicago on June 4 to ask for Iowa's reinstatement. The petition was denied.



On December 11, 1929, the Board declared the 14 athletes, who had been the beneficiaries of the alleged Belting Fund, ineligible. This had been a main deterrent for reinstatement. Big Ten faculty representatives visited the University in January, 1930, and on February 1, Iowa was reinstated. Lauer became Director of Physical Education and Intercollegiate Athletics and Ossie Solem succeeded Coach Ingwersen.

The Legislative investigation of the University in 1931 was another major crisis. In the Cedar Rapids *Evening Gazette and Republican* for December 21, 1930, Editor Verne Marshall attacked President Jessup and his administration of the University. The article stressed the athletic affair and charged mishandling of Rockefeller funds. George T. Baker, President of the State Board of Education, defended the University and the investment of the Rockefeller gift.

On January 24, 1931, Governor Dan Turner sent a message to the 44th General Assembly asking for an investigation of the University. The Senate and House passed resolutions setting up an investigating committee of five Republicans and one Democrat: Senate—H. B. Carroll, W. S. Baird, L. H. Doran; House—Byron G. Allen, F. C. Byers (University alumnus), G. E. Miller. The committee selected Carroll as Chairman and Allen as Vice Chairman. A court reporter was secured. Dennis Kelleher, Fort Dodge, was selected as



chief counsel, assisted by the Attorney General's office. The State Board of Education retained Emmett Tinley of Council Bluffs and Henry Walker of Iowa City as counsel. The investigation began February 23, 1931.

Public hearings began before a large audience in Des Moines with Verne Marshall presenting and explaining his twenty-one charges covering alleged misuse of Rockefeller funds, improper acts of University officials, real estate purchases, misuse of University property and labor, athletic and medical items, and others. Meetings were held in Des Moines and in the Senate Chamber of Old Capitol in Iowa City. The final session was held on April 11, 1931.

A majority report of the Committee exonerated accused University personnel, but condemned some University practices. A minority report was more favorable to the University. A *Phi Delta Kappa Epsilon Bulletin* report gave a complete summary of the investigation, with conclusions favorable to the University. A Vindication Banquet was held in Iowa City April 27, 1931, with some 600 in attendance. Cost of the Investigation, \$19,413.02, was paid for by the General Assembly.

When Walter A. Jessup became president in 1916 the administration of student affairs was in the hands of Robert E. Rienow, Dean of Men, and Anna M. Klingenhagen, Dean of Women. In 1918, Dean Nellie S. Aurner replaced her. She,



in turn, was followed by Adelaide L. Burge, who, in 1921, began a long career in this position.

As the College of Medicine expanded the student health program became coordinated and enlarged. Student self-government made little progress due to student inertia. The administration tolerated student groups, but did not consider change necessary or desirable.

The literary societies for men and women which furnished outlets for talent in music, art, debate, oratory and dramatics, came to an end during the later years of the Jessup administration. At this time fraternities and sororities engaged in lavish building programs. When Jessup became president in 1916 there were 15 social fraternities, 10 sororities, 10 professional, and 6 honorary fraternities. When he resigned in 1933 there were 20 social fraternities, 16 sororities, 12 professional, and 6 honorary fraternities. Many were in financial difficulties due to rising cost of board and room, parties, and building costs.

The University Lecture series, presided over with flair by Professor Benjamin F. Shambaugh, was augmented by noted speakers brought to Iowa City by the Times Club.

Student capers and escapades occurred from time-to-time. Fads and fancies came and went. Green caps for Freshmen lasted a few years. Law students carried canes and Dental students adopted the derby as a distinctive garb; engineers wore



corduroy shirts and straw hats for MECCA Week. All added a bit of color to campus life but each in time was abandoned. Students passed through the "Jazz age" of the twenties to a more sober frame of mind in the thirties. Frivolity gave way to a struggle for an education during the depression.

Throughout the eighteen years of President Jessup's tenure he encouraged loyalty to the University on the part of alumni through attendance at Homecoming, Dad's Day, Mother's Day, Foundation Day meetings, and Commencement. Radio Station WSUI carried campus news to listeners over a large area. The annual University Dinner for male campus leaders and another for women, both underwritten by W. P. Finkbine and Carl Kuehnle, later by Finkbine alone, deepened the loyalty of all participants. A.F.I. (All for Iowa), an organization of senior men, and Mortar Board for women, also intensified loyalty.

The hard work of President Jessup and the activities of a faithful faculty brought many generous gifts to the University during this period. These included the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory at Lake Okoboji—a gift of alumni; the Rockefeller gift for the Medical complex; the Laura Spellman Rockefeller gift for the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station; the Carnegie Corporation gift for the Fine Arts Building; the Rockefeller gift for the University Theatre; and the money pledged



for the Iowa Memorial Union by alumni and friends. Other gifts included books, museum items, portraits, and busts of University professors and presidents. The School of Religion, University departments, and professional colleges received thousands of dollars from foundations, industry, government, and research organizations.

Although earlier attempts to establish a Student Union had failed, the idea was kept alive during World War I. The Class of 1917 pledged \$25,000 over a period of years to get the project started. President Jessup, in his Foundation Day address for 1919, advocated the erection of a student memorial union. The graduating class of 1919 contributed a \$1,000 bond to the cause. An organization was formed to promote the project. Drives for funds, some successful, others less so, secured pledges for \$606,000 toward the goal of \$1,000,000 by June, 1924. The first section of the Iowa Memorial Union was dedicated on February 6, 1926, with R. H. Fitzgerald as Director. Faculty men used a section of the Union for the Triangle Club and their wives and faculty women had quarters for the University Club. The famous Triangle Club suppers, for faculty members and their wives, were held here monthly. The Union under Fitzgerald and his successor, Earl E. Harper, has served its purpose well, a fitting memorial to the Iowa men and women it commemorates.



The period from 1916 to 1934 was one in which certain academic units at the University experienced great expansion. The Department of Journalism became the School of Journalism. In March, 1927, Professor C. H. Weller, the first Director, died and was succeeded by Frank Luther Mott. Fred M. Pownall, Director of Publications, started the *Iowa News-Bulletin* in 1924 which was sent free to all alumni. The School of Religion was another unit started during the Jessup administration with M. Willard Lampe as Director. A Bureau of Business and Economic Research was set up in the College of Commerce. A School of Fine Arts, including Music, Graphic and Plastic Arts, History of Fine Arts, and Dramatic Arts, was established in the fall of 1929 with R. H. Fitzgerald as Director. Upon his departure, Earl E. Harper became his successor.

The Department of Dramatic Arts under Professor E. C. Mabie, the Department of Music under Professor Philip Greeley Clapp, and the Department of Fine Arts under Professor Lester D. Longman became famous for their achievements. Grant Wood joined the Arts staff in 1934. The cornerstone of the Fine Arts Building was laid on June 2, 1934.

The standard Liberal Arts course was revised in 1928, and a School of Letters, under Professor Norman Foerster was established in 1930. Professor Benjamin F. Shambaugh, Department of



Political Science, introduced the Campus Course, an overview of learning; the Museum was separated from the Department of Zoology and made into a department of its own; and Philosophy was separated from Psychology. New courses were introduced into other departments.

Perhaps President Jessup's most significant contributions to the University, while President, were his administrative leadership and his force as a master builder.

He resigned on December 12, 1933, to accept the presidency of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and later the double role as President of the Carnegie Corporation. His resignation to take effect July 1, 1934, was accepted reluctantly by the Board of Education and he was given the title of President Emeritus.

On July 5, 1944, Walter Jessup was found dead in his room in New York City. A special convocation was held in the Iowa Memorial Union on July 14 to pay tribute to his memory and to memorialize his contributions to the University, the State, and the Nation. His ashes were buried in the Iowa City cemetery on a high hill overlooking the city and the University he loved so well.